

RECEIVED

MAY 28 1927

April 7 1927

Japan

Dear Mrs. Dimock-- I am just back from the funeral of Mr. Yi Sang Chai and I want to share it with you, for it has moved me more than anything in which I have shared in years.

*copied  
5/28/27  
A.C.  
Adinet*

*assured*  
A procession of 4000 or 5000 people, all walking slowly, all in line because they wanted to be there, to show honor to a man whom they all considered a model for his countrymen, and passing between solid rows of men and women and children, not less than 60,000 of them, lining the side-walks, crowding the windows, massed as thick as they could stand on every little rise of ground that gave a view of the procession, and all so still and orderly. I have watched the funeral processions of two Korean Emperors, and attended the memorial services for the recent Japanese Emperor, but nothing has ever shown me a Korean crowd so quiet and subdued as this funeral did.

*Mr. Yi Sang Chai had been*  
He was secretary of the Korean Legation in Washington years ago, and when the Minister (father of one of my teachers, by the way) had to return to Korea for a while, he was Charge d' Affairs. He was a member of the Korean Cabinet, when Korea had a cabinet, and might have been Prime Minister, if he had been willing to take the office. When Prince Ito, who was Resident-General in Korea, and brought about its annexation, was saying good-bye to a friend who was coming here, he said "By all means see Mr. Yi Sang Chai, he is the smartest man in Korea". He was the first Director of Religious Work in the City Y.M.C.A. elder in the Yun Dong Presbyterian Church, and the friend of all the young men in the city.

I like best to think of him at a base-ball game. Whenever I missed a game between the Seoul Schools, and always cheered for both teams, finally bringing out for the consolation of the losers, his favorite English phrase "Never Mind"!!

*right*  
His public funeral was carried thru by a committee of 30 representative Koreans from Seoul, who were chosen by a general meeting in which I was proud to share. You will be interested in knowing that at least 8 of the 30 were Christians-- pretty good where only 10,000 out of 250,000 of the people of Seoul are-- and of the 4 sub-committees, two had Christians for chairmen. One of those, also a Presbyterian Elder, not a rich man, was the treasurer. The Christians in Korea, as in Japan, have more weight than their numbers would lead one to expect. *few*

There was a private funeral on Thursday morning-- you can get an idea of how much time I have for writing, from the fact that this letter, begun on Thursday evening, is still in the typewriter on Friday. Fortunately, I have another machine for office work this is my personal one---- at the Y.M.C.A. admission by invitation only. This was of course Christian, a beautiful service, all in Korean, but otherwise just what you see at home.

[A funeral given by the public-- the Korean words literally mean "Society Funeral"-- is the greatest honor Korea can offer. And it is very rare. In the past few years, I have known twice when an effort was made to give such a funeral, to men who seemed sufficiently distinguished to warrant it, and both times the matter fell thru.]

Series II, Box #6, Record Copy 140-4-35

April 1951

I have held the previous pages of this letter for the enclosed pictures which will help make the whole story vivid, I trust.

One shows the banners, or part of them for there were over 250 that I counted. This shows the crowds along the street, including some of the ones on the roofs of the lower and more accessible buildings. The banners usually say "respect to the memory of the departed teacher, Yi Sang Chai". They were sent in by churches and other organizations all over Korea, as I said on page 2, and they meant a lot.

The picture of the banners, with a 3-story and tower building in the background, is taken just where the main street of Seoul goes around the Great South Gate. It shows my boys carrying their share of the banners, and behind them you can see the packed crowd.

The picture with the hearse is the most interesting one. It was taken also at the South Gate. It shows the pall-bearers, each in frock coat and high hat, which is de rigeur for ceremonial occasions in the Far East. You may have heard of the distinguished American who prides himself on wearing Japanese clothes during his frequent visits to Japan. He was given permission to visit the Imperial Shrine at Ise, but when he appeared in Japanese ceremonial clothes-- Hakama, tabi, Japanese sandals, and all-- was refused admission, because he did not wear a frock coat and high hat!"

Close behind the hearse you see the sons, in mourning-- Korean old style, of course--and following them the friends, including representatives of the city churches, both men and women. I think this is the only time that Korean women-- at least of the better class-- have walked in a funeral procession.

The background of this picture is interesting, it shows the beautiful pointed peak of "North Mountain", which is inside the city wall. The wall runs along the ridge that shows dark in the picture, in fact, the dark line is made by the pine trees that grow just under the shelter of the wall. Beyond the wall rise the bare granite peaks of "North Fortress", the highest of them about 2600 feet, and as it rises right from sea-level, it makes a good-looking mountain.

There is also an excellent post-card of Elder Yi, in Korean clothes, just as he has spoken in our chapel many times. But of course you cannot see the kindly humor, and the sure dawn, and the deep spiritual feeling, that still live in that face for us who knew him.

After the funeral, the body was taken on the train to Elder Yi's old home in South Korea. There several thousand people met the party, and another service was held, before the interment.

With best wishes to the Publicity Department, I am  
yours very sincerely, E. H. Koma

P.S. You may like to know that our new house was begun on March 22d-- that was when the first concrete was poured for the foundation-- and to-day the last of the second-story windows was set, with the walls half way up all round the second story-- going some, for the slow East? It is an 8-room brick house, with 2-story sun-porch built as part of the house, and has 3 fire-places, all of which are in, also the STAIRS from the first floor to the second. A fine house it is."

E. H. K.

20/1/51  
Lund

the same could be said of them.

The two general meetings of "representatives of all social organizations" that were held to appoint the committee of 30, and to hear and approve their report, were among the most interesting experiences of recent years for me. I was the only Westerner at the first meeting, and almost the only one at the second. There was no lack of order and decorum, or of familiarity with Parliamentary Law. The Koreans have long since learned how to conduct a public meeting.

But under the calm surface, one could feel that there was strong feeling between various factions. Two young men who were asked to serve on the committee of 30, declined to do so "until we know what is to be the nature of the funeral service" which meant of course "till we are assured that it will not be Christian".

The general meeting wisely left to the committee of 30 "all matters of receiving resignations, filling vacancies, appointing further members, and all other items needed for carrying out the funeral".

The morning before the funeral, the secretary of the committee came to call on me, and told me that the banners to be carried in the procession, inscribed with some sentiment of respect to the dead man, that are a feature of every Korean or Japanese funeral, had come in from all over Korea, in such numbers that they committee had no one to carry them. Would I send some of the school boys to take a banner apiece? I would do better than that. I would call in some of the influential older boys and let him tell them about the situation. He is an old-time Korean, and that way of doing things did not look so good to him, he wanted an order from the Principal.

But he came along, and made a good talk, and then went away, to wait till I would phone him the result. I was glad, in less than half an hour, to be able to tell him that all the boys of the 3d and 4th years, and most of those in the 5th, were clamoring for the privilege, so that instead of the 70 he wanted, I could let him have more than a hundred, if he could use them!!!

I counted the banners during the service, they ran well over the 250 mark, the school had one among them of course.

[The public ceremony was brief-- ~~which was appreciated by those of us who had been standing and marching for more than 6 hours when it began, and of course had to stand through it too---~~ and very simple. There was music by the Seoul Band, some addresses were made, and heard, by Nipponophone record and loud speaker, a sermon that he truly "being dead, yet speaketh". I know no one person who has influenced the life of the Korean people more, in this generation.

We have in our new Chapel, in a handsome frame the message he gave us when the building was dedicated. It has been carefully copied on white silk, and is one of our school treasures.

Sign Rev. E. W. Korn

Genso II, Reel #6, Record Group 140-4-35 (1927)

Rev. J. G. Holdcroft.

FILED BY  
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SECRETARIES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
KOREA MISSION  
OF THE  
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

Chongno 8-18  
Secy **BROWN, REC'D**

MAY 23 1927 April 27th, 1927

Good letter

To All (Methodist U.S.A.) Missionaries  
From China Now in Korea.

Dear Friends:-

On behalf of the Chosen Mission I send you a word of greeting and a little information which perhaps some of you may not have received. First of all, however, let me say that we regret that you have had to leave your homes and work, but since you have been compelled to do so we trust that your sojourn with us may be as comfortable and happy as is possible under the circumstances. We wish to do anything we can to aid you while you are here.

Some of you may not have learned of the telegrams from the China Council which we have received in reference to your present relations and to your immediate future. I give, therefore the gist of the information we have received. The last telegram was received April 19th and is as follows:-

"China Missionaries already in Korea China Council cannot locate Therefore authorize you to act in their behalf making assignments temporarily subject to recall after consulting individuals during which under the jurisdiction of your Executive Committee Suggestions will be sent by mail Notify All Missionaries New York Board desires remain Orient, - - - - -"

This, in addition to the information which had previously reached us, to the effect that the China Council (with the approval of the Board) desired a number of well selected members from each Mission Station to remain in or near their Stations, those with furloughs imminent or who are near the age of retirement to return home (on approval of the China Council) and that all others should go to neighboring countries (P.I., Japan, Korea) and that some, especially Junior missionaries might be transferred to other Missions, is all the official news we have learned to date in regard to this matter.

In view of the China Council's transfer of missionaries to the jurisdiction of the Chosen Mission's Executive Committee, this Committee would like to make the following suggestions:-

1. If names of any missionaries have not already been sent in to the Board, as having reached Korea safely these should be sent to Mr. J. F. Genso, Seoul, at once, and Mr. Genso will cable home such as he has not yet included.
2. Places of Residence and Changes. We need a complete list of all China Missionaries of our Board in each Station, and this list should be kept correct.



Moffett + Gale-trip.

2 pack-horses loaded with money, to see Dr. Ross who had just translated the Bible. Stopped at 74 "where we received nothing but contempt when we inquired about *Shu* in the vicinity" But at Wiji may had received Bible from Dr. Ross, - I knew it. Returned by Wiji son. "Hired 2 men with cows but they soon threw their loads and left us" Next had a man from Hamheung who declared his cows could carry more than 2 ordinary cows. He got us part way, but the stream on the cow was too great so we paid him off and got another conveyance to Hamheung."

"In all of our journeys we saw no women and it was not until I saw Mrs. Sen in Seoul that I got my first glimpse of a Korean woman..."

- James Gals, "The Beginnings of Missionary Work in Korea"  
Korean Mission Field, vol. 23, no 4 (Apr. 1927) p. 69.

DR. BROWN, REC'D

JUL 25 1927

Report of Boy's Academy. May, 1927  
Samuel A. Haffett.

FILED DEPT  
21-2  
JUL 16 1928  
SECRETARIES

Ans'd

In many respects this last year was the most difficult one in our history. The continued delay of the Government in granting "designation" and the financial depression thruout the country caused a steady diminution in the number of students so we closed the year with but 219 in attendance. Several of our teachers were very unsatisfactory and what seemed necessary expenses mounted up to a very large deficit.

Nevertheless the spirit was good and the football team took the All Korea Championship much to the delight of all. We received special gifts of nearly \$ 8,000 from Dr. Marquis and others for the extensive alteration of the main building with enlarged class room space and we received special gifts for the extra expenses so that we closed the books with a balance of \$ 11 and for outside expenses have a deficit of only some \$ 500. The total enrollment for the year was 342 and the regular budget, aside from building and outside expenses, was \$ 29711.

We seem to have passed the crisis in the Academy and are on the up-grade. A larger number of students have entered than we expected--some 150 being received into the first class while over 100 who failed in examinations were rejected. The Faculty is a decided improvement over the one last year. Two of our men finished their studies in Japan and have returned to teach. Our three new Japanese teachers--one the new pastor of the Japanese Presbyterian Church--are better men and the new teacher of Athletics with qualifications seems to be arousing enthusiasm. Salaries for qualified teachers we have set at \$ 100 per mo., altho we are able to secure our teacher of Athletics for \$ 80. I hope to see other schools unite with ours in maintaining salaries at a reasonable figure. I am satisfied that a mistake was made when they offered the very high salaries a few years ago.

We graduated 29 men in March of whom 11 entered College with several former graduates. The 5th year now numbers 26. We received without examination the 4th and 5th year students of the Soong In School in the city as financial conditions led them to run only three years course for the present. Our enrollment for this new term is now 313 so that we are pretty certain to enroll more this year than last. I am glad to report also a far better attitude toward the school on the part of the Church officers and parents of the city. They seem to have conquered their disappointment in our delay in receiving designation and show an interest and sympathy and readiness to co-operate. Interviews with Government officials concerning designation in hope that we might get favorable consideration this year leave us still in uncertainty.

Dr. Blair and Rev. Lee Sung Whee most helpfully conducted the conferences for deepening the spiritual life of the students. The work of the Evangelistic Boards and the religious activities of the students in Churches and Sunday Schools are helping in training the future spiritual leaders while also helping greatly in these Churches and Sunday Schools. Dr. Bernhiesel, Mr. Mowry and Dr. Parker have rendered great help in the Academy and the Dean has continued his good work. AS I finish this report the Academy team has again won the football banner.

RG.140-7-44

*Dr. B...*

*Ass*  
FACTS ABOUT PYONGYANG ACADEMY GRADUATES

FILING DEPT.  
*21-2*  
OCT 18 1928  
SECRETARIES

Total No of Graduates.....633

Of these 44 are pastors or Theologians

*Mar 1927*

199 are teachers in Schools - occupying positions,  
as teachers in College, in practically all of  
the Primary Schools.

Concerning these teachers the almost universal testimony  
is that they are a great help to the local churches and main-  
tain a reputation for sincere Christian faith and character  
and for zeal in Church, Sunday School, and Bible Classes.

116 are students in Higher Schools, Colleges,  
Medical Schools, professional schools etc.,  
preparing for work.

88 are students abroad; in Japan or America.

Several are in Theological Seminaries in America.

Several are in Japan preparing to become teachers  
in College or Academies in Korea.

The remainder are farmers, merchants, business.

30 are dead.



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R. BROWN, RECD

Rev. Jas. Gale

FILING DEPT  
SEP 14 1927  
SECRETARIES

AUG 8 1927

Aug 3. 1927 - K.

St. Kateri St., Kitchener, Ontario

Dr. Gale born -

Feb. 19, 1863. Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> 1927

Ans'd

My dear Dr. Brown. App. on file Aug. 31. 1891.

Here we are enjoying the delightful fresh air of August in Canada with the trials of our summer season only a memory. I read this a. m. of the Indians and Baldioni's welcome. I dare say it reminds me a little of our own send off in Sept when maynas, viscounts, and barons as well as our dear de Choud people were at the station to say good bye. Archbishop Melic and his French and German fathers were there as well as the Vice Governor in person with messages and a gift from the governor general. My own dear kinsman <sup>also</sup> was <sup>about</sup> there. Already they had begun annual meeting in Pukyanq and had said their good bye before.

I come home with problems in my hands that I put in your kinder care to have solved for me. Dr. Gale's state of health which has virtually kept her a prisoner for several years finds her going back. The extremes of summer and winter have become heavier and harder as the year goes by. Dr. McKern of the Sevnance who is now in Perth at Australia has been her physician and has done his best. The other morning in Kelowna she started out hopefully for a little walk but before we reached our destination collapsed and had to call a taxi and bring her home. The change of air here has traced her up and at times she seems quite well. Whether it be nerves or circulation (disordered) I do not know but she is a great sufferer. Although originally very vigorous and full of cheer.

Besides my wife's health I have my little family to care for. My boy George now sixteen has never really seen his little sister of eight. We have been shut away from him for eight years near and my domestic now is to get my things

together for what remains of life. Had I not the question of my family, I should have  
been home for them in my home and my own people. Thus I hope to work for  
them of my pen for that way as long as I live.

When my first year ends it will be 40 years since I was appointed of the  
Council of the J. M. C. University College Toronto to go out and lend a hand in  
American Presbyterian missions. We took Dr. Allen and Dr. Underwood before  
deciding and on their directions I went first joining them in June in Dec 1888  
I need not mention the particular work I was engaged in in 1889 keeping Dr.  
Underwood in his Dictionary or in 1890 when I had charge of the Boys School  
or in 1891 when Dr. Moffatt and I made our long journey through Manchuria  
and the north. Might I say that the first three years, as I have seen them, are  
the most expensive years the Board has had to meet in regard to the missions. For  
this time they are going through that preparatory state that means little for the actual  
work and much outlay. I took charge of my preparatory year myself. They  
cost the Board nothing and yet the Board was given the full benefit of them. All  
when appointed I was already in full charge of work. Let me not a little  
please, I may have heard another talk of this work but have a wonderful  
tolerance toward myself. When the Board appointed me early in 1892 I was already  
preaching Sunday morning and this I continued to do till Mar. 27<sup>th</sup> of the year  
The other foreign missionaries were set aside and Koreans did their own preaching. My  
with many I was expressed was to step aside but they held me fast till the  
very year. This speaks for the preparation I made in those first three years. I  
really have, have no occasion to boast at all. Others did their best and so did  
I. In many respects they did better than I. May I add as to work done that  
I have left my completed ones of the third volume of the Korean-English Dictionary

to which I added 25,000 words over and above the second edition, largely lost  
in the earthquake. This is now going through the press in Japan and will take  
about 3 years to complete. I shall say that the gods are a calamity in the  
work for three years since I came. You will see by my painful efforts to make the  
most of it that I would like the Board to account my work as done. I am not anxious  
for any honors but I am anxious that the Board should feel that I have not slacked  
my job but have done my full measure. Adding my furlough shall have done about  
37 full years in the service of the Board, have near been off for six years, and have  
been home only four times including our present furlough. The doctor feels quite  
as I do and Dr. Moffitt said on bidding goodbye "I hope the Board will overlook  
the technical irregularity and give you full credit." What I would like then of the  
Board ~~and~~ <sup>to</sup> ~~the~~ final grant is that I be released from returning to Korea and be paid  
or as liberal a pension as the circumstances seem to warrant. I have saved no money  
as a missionary, all having been required, sometimes more, than the needs. If I  
can do anything that falls within my power, <sup>within the Board's limits</sup> I shall be so glad to do the best I can.  
I had thought of asking permission to live in Victoria B.C. the next station to Yokohama  
when I could be in touch with Orientals and still lend a hand in the work  
of the <sup>Christian</sup> Korean Educational Society but I cannot get my little boy away from England  
till his course in the middle school is completed. In view of this I would like  
if possible to face the journey, to go <sup>to England</sup> leaving Oct 26<sup>th</sup> in the Express of Scotland of  
course I should pay my own fare.

Kindly take all these problems of mine and decide for me what you think  
best. It is a heart-breaking business to leave Korea and yet one factor which  
makes it easier — the most vital factor in the problem of East Asia, a factor that  
has upset China from end to end and will not be solved for years to come. It  
is this — a mad generalship has come on that knows nothing of its father —

has been a matter of the West. Or that it is needed but no more  
cannot read the Bible records or know the moral standard, the ideal,  
his religion, his civilization. In fact the generation now looks for news nothing  
of the last war. You will know that it knows nothing of the war except what  
it gets through the moving picture, the magazine and broadcast, or the newspaper.

This is the problem of the East. The experience of past years like my own  
appears not with passing generation but to persist. When I think of Gandhi  
and Ambedkar, and the other younger missionaries have no head I feel  
my deepest heart of sympathy go out toward them for a problem so sure is  
especially with Gandhi at the back urging in truth force and lawlessness. This  
is the right time you are leaving Korea, <sup>since</sup> the older generation with  
all the splendid fruits of missionary effort; ~~that we have seen~~ is gone or fast going.  
The new generation <sup>has</sup> a mind entirely different <sup>and</sup> presents a complex problem  
such as the medical field has not seen before.

Expose the long letter kindly take its needs <sup>into your care</sup>  
and decide as you think best.

Ever yours sincerely  
James J. Gale

P.S. My kind regards to Mr. Brown, please.

JJG